THE

Theatrical Observer.

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 576 Saturday, Sept. 27, 1823. Price 1d.

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

The performances of last night were "*I will have a Wife*," *The Miller's Maid*, and *Presumption*, all which gave high gratification to a respectable audience.

On Monday, under the Patronage of His Royal Highness the Duke of York, *Free and Easy*, *The Vampire*, a variety of Scotch and Irish Melodies, to conclude with "*Where shall I Dine*," for the Benefit of Mr. Broadhurst.

HAY-MARKET.

Twelve Precisely, *The Lord of the Manor*, and *A Roland for an Oliver*, attracted such overflowing numbers to this house last night, that a great many persons were disappointed at not being able to get a seat. The whole performances gave high satisfaction.

On Monday, Mr. Liston has for his Benefit, *Sweethearts and Wives*, *Deaf as a Post*, and *X. Y. Z.* in all which he performs.

Covent Garden Theatre.

Last night the interior of this noble structure was lighted-up, in order to afford to the friends of the establishment an opportunity of minutely inspecting the important alterations and embellishments which the Theatre has undergone during the recess. On entering we were struck at once with the dazzling splendour, yet chaste style of the whole. At first it was difficult to fix the eye on any particular part, so entirely lost is it amidst the brilliancy and beauty of the general effect. The following descriptive Paper was circulated by the Proprietors, and states the prominent points of the improvements.

"In the alterations, the Proprietors have made it their study to unite with the convenience of the Public, a neatness and elegance of appearance which they would willingly persuade themselves will meet with a favorable reception.—The ceiling is adorned with a new Chandelier encircled by the symbols of Apollo, with rays terminating in clouds, which are surrounded by National. combined with Grecian ornaments, in keeping with those of the fronts of the Boxes. The Pilaster Boxes are no longer to be seen, which improves the hearing

and gives a more finished appearance to the house.—The cushions of the Boxes are covered with the richest silk tabaret, from the patterns of the furniture of Carlton-House—Mahogany backs are put to the seats.—New chandeliers are introduced throughout—A communication is opened between the upper and lower Saloons, which have been ornamented and decorated in the handsomest style—A spacious Saloon is constructed so as to connect the two sides of the dress circle.—The Proscenium is most splendidly designed.—A new drop Curtain is introduced.—The spaces formerly occupied by the stage doors are converted into Boxes—The painting is new throughout—A new and more convenient mode of entrance to the Pit is constructed—Great attention has been paid to the complete ventilation of the house, and an entirely new Stage has been laid, calculated to admit of great novelty in the display of Scenery and Machinery."

But it is only by witnessing the happy result of the labours, that any just idea can be formed of their merit. *Taste* has gone hand in hand with *utility*. The fronts of the different circles are ornamented with the national emblems, the rose, the shamrock, and the thistle, enwreathed, with a Grecian border, in burnished gold, on a light ground; which produces a massive yet elegant effect. The *Proscenium* is a *chef dœuvre:* it represents a cheerful sky, whose bright blue is relieved by a few fleecy clouds, and surmounted by rays in burnished gold. The execution is admirable, as well as that of the drapery and royal shield below. The grand Chandelier is magnificent—casting a powerful yet pleasing effulgence to every part of the house, and crowned with a circle of golden rays that, like the sun, glitter in the centre of a brilliant sky. Some of the emblematic ornaments here, might, however, have been better pencilled, and might, no doubt, still be retouched, and thus render perfect the beautiful roof. The old form of the boxes remains; and the removal of those vile places called the *Pigeon holes*, is a great improvement. Two avenues down the pit afford agreat facility of ingress and egress, The *Saloons*, and the whole of the interior, have been painted and adorned with a liberal hand; and in short the Proprietors appear to have spared neither expense nor attention, in preparing for the patrons of the Drama, and the British Public in general, a theatre in every respect worthy of being called *National.*

BENEFITS.—Several fraudulent applications having been made last season for admissions to benefits, in the name of the Editor of this Paper, it is proper to make known, that no request of the kind comes from any one connected with it.

Those numbers of the last Winter Season that were out of print, are now reprinted, and complete sets may be had by applying to C. HARRIS, Bow Street, CHAPPEL and Son, Royal Exchange; and at the Printing Office, as under.

☞ IT is respectfully suggested to our Friends to be careful, in going to the Theatre, not to be imposed on by having another Paper (an imitation of this) thrust into their hands as "THE THEATRICAL OBSERVER."

Printed by E. THOMAS Denmark Court, Exeter 'Change, Strand.

Theatre Royal English Opera House.

This Evening, the New Operetta, called,

Too Curious by Half.

Don Diego di Montilla, Mr W. BENNETT,
Don Lopez di Montilla, Mr J. KNIGHT, Charles Gripe, Mr BAKER
Col. Ravelin, Mr J. BLAND, Marplot, Mr WRENCH,
Tom, Mr R. PHILLIPS, Robert, Mr SAUNDERS,
Corregidor, Mr SHERIFF, Vasquez, Mr H. PHILLIPS,
Donna Theresa, Mrs AUSTIN, Donna Aurora, Mrs GROVE,
Isidora, Miss CARR, Isabinda, Miss HOLDAWAY,
Margaritta, Mrs BRYAN,

After which, the Musical Farce, called

GRETNA GREEN.

Lord Lovewell, Mr J. BLAND, Mr Tomkins, Mr BENNETT,
Mr Jenkins, Mr WRENCH, Larder, Mr POWER,
Waiters, Postilions, &c. Messrs. Mears, Lodge, Smith, Povey, &c.
Emily, Mrs AUSTIN, Betty Finikin, Miss KELLY,

To conclude with, the new ROMANCE, called,

PRESUMPTION;

Or, The Fate of Frankenstein.

Felix De Lacey, Mr BROADHURST, Frankenstein, Mr WALLACK
De Lacey, a banished Gentleman, Mr ROWBOTHAM,
Fritz, Mr KEELEY, Clerval, Mr BLAND, William, Master Boden
Hammerpan, Mr SALTER, Tanskin, Mr SHIELD.
(———) Mr T. P. COOKE,
Elizabeth, [Sister of Frankenstein] Mrs AUSTIN,
Agatha de Lacey, Miss L. DANCE, Safie, Miss HOLDAWAY,
Madame Ninon, [Wife of Fritz] Mrs BRYAN.

On Monday, Under the Patronage of the Duke of York, Free and Easy, The Vampire, Scotch and Irish Melodies, and Where Shall I Dine? for the Benefit of Mr. BROADHURST.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, the Comic Piece in One Act, called,

MATCH-MAKING.

Mr. Matchem, Mr TERRY,
Colonel Rakeley, Mr VINING,
Shuffle, Mr HARLEY,
Captain Belmont, Mr JOHNSON,
Servant, Mr C. JONES,
Lady Emily, Mrs CHATTERLEY.

After which, [1st time in its present form] A New Musical Drama, in 3 Acts (taken from Dr Goldsmith's Romance) call'd The

Vicar of Wakefield.

The Overture and New Music composed by Mr. Perry, with Selections from Sanderson and others.

Doctor Primrose, Mr TERRY, Mr. Burchell, Mr COOPER,
Moses Primrose, Mr LISTON,
Mr. Thornhill, Mr JOHNSON, Lieut. Primrose, Mr DAVIS,
Farmer Williams, Mr LEONI LEE, Fanfaron, Mr W. WEST,
Jenkinson, Mr HAMMOND, Tim Baxter, Mr BRISTOW,
Trap, Mr Wynne, Prison-Keeper, Mr Ebsworth,
First Officer, Mr. C. Jones, Second Officer, Mr Coates,
Constables, Messrs Bemetzrieder and Colson,
Mrs Primrose, Mrs JONES,
Olivia Primrose, Miss CHESTER, Lady Blarney, Mrs GIBBS,
Miss Caroline Wilhelmina Amelia Skeggs, Mrs ORGER,
Sophia Primrose, Mrs GARRICK, Miss Wilmot, Miss JOHNSON
Kitty Flamborough, Mrs. C. JONES.
Landlady, Mrs Kendall.

To conclude with the New Farce, called,

"Fish out of Water."

Sir George Courtley, Mr POPE,
Alderman Gayfare, Mr YOUNGER,
Charles Gayfare, Mr VINING,
Steward, Mr. Coates, Footman, Mr Wynne,
Sam Savoury, Mr LISTON,
Ellen Courtley, Miss LOVE, Lucy, Miss SMITH,

On Monday, Sweetheares and Wives, Deaf as a Post, and X, Y, Z' for the Benefit of Mr. LISTON.